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Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, May 19, 1918, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard) BELL Hotel Belmont, New York. May 19th, 1918. Mabel dear:

I have been awake all night thinking of poor little Gertrude Mercer. I saw her yesterday and was shocked indeed by her appearance. I don't like to express pessimism and have said nothing to Gipsy upon the subject but I cannot help feeling that the worst may be expected — and expected soon. I have not yet seen Stuyvesant — but Gipsy is bearing up wonderfully. We must do something to help them. I am going round to see them now and propose to tell them to send their doctors' bills to me. I can surely meet them out of the special fund I have been saving for the support of the G.R.O. I would rather let the whole G.R.O. go than feel I could have helped and did not do so. We cannot contribute from our general funds — let the G.R.O. go if necessary. I will let Gipsy and Stuyvesant know that I will stand by them and help them to the extent of my ability — and urge them to get the best medical and surgical advice independently of expense.

I am heavy hearted today and can think of nothing else.

Your loving, Alec. Mrs. A. G. Bell, 1331 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C.